

A genealogical profile of John Eddy

Birth: John Eddy was baptized in March 1597 at Cranbrook, Kent.

Death: He died on October 12, 1684, in Watertown.

Ship: Handmaid, 1630

Life in England: John Eddy was the son of Reverend William and Mary (Fosten) Eddy. Immediately before emigrating, he had lived in Boxted, Essex.

Life in New England: John Eddy came to Plymouth aboard the Handmaid in 1630. By February, 1631/2, he had left Plymouth and removed to Watertown, in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. He joined the Watertown congregation by March 1632/3 and served as a selectman several years. He suffered bouts of mental illness but otherwise lived “very orderly” according to John Winthrop. His estate included large land holdings which were distributed among his children in his will. He was the brother of three other early colonists: Samuel Eddy of Plymouth, Abigail (Eddy) Benjamin of Cambridge and Anna (Eddy) Wines of Watertown.

Family: John Eddy married (1) Amy Doggett by about 1622 and had ten children. He married (2) Joanna (_____) Meade after May 12, 1666. She died in Watertown on August 25, 1683.

Children of John and Amy Eddy:

- John was baptized in Nayland, Suffolk on June 9, 1622, and buried there February 8, 1622/3.
- John was baptized in Nayland on March 29, 1624, and died soon thereafter.
- Mary was baptized in Nayland on March 10, 1625/6. She married Thomas Orton by 1648 and had at least three children. He died on May 19, 1687. She died on September 13, 1693.
- Sarah was born about 1628. She married John Marion by 1651 and had eleven children. He died on January 27, 1705. She died in Boston on February 3, 1709/10.
- Pilgrim was born in Watertown on August 25, 1634. She married (1) William Baker in Boston on April 22, 1656, and had one child. She married (2) Isaac Stedman by January 11, 1677. She married (3) Sylvester Eveleth after February 5, 1682. He died on January 4, 1688/9.
- John was born in Watertown on February 16, 1636. He was still living on August 6, 1702, apparently unmarried.
- Benjamin was buried in Watertown in 1639.
- Samuel was born in Watertown on September 30, 1640. He married Sarah Meade in Dorchester on November 31 [sic], 1664, and had eight children. He died on November 22, 1711.
- Abigail was born in Watertown on October 11, 1643. There is no further record.

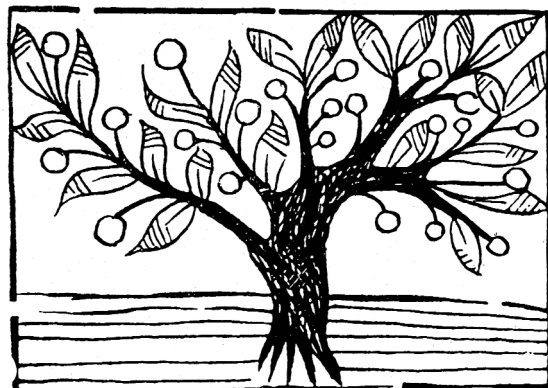
- Ruth was born about 1645. She married Ezekiel Gardner by 1671 and had at least one son. He died before February 9, 1703.

For Further Information:

Robert C. Anderson. *The Great Migration Begins*. Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1995.

Robert C. Anderson. *The Pilgrim Migration*. Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2004.

Ruth S. D. Eddy, compiler. *The Eddy Family in America: a Genealogy*. Boston: Metcalf Company, 1930.



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Where do I go from here?

Researching your family's history can be a fun, rewarding, and occasionally frustrating project. Start with what you know by collecting information on your immediate family. Then, trace back through parents, grandparents, and beyond. This is a great opportunity to speak to relatives, gather family stories, arrange and identify old family photographs, and document family possessions that have been passed down from earlier generations.

Once you have learned all you can from family members, you will begin to discover other sources. A wide variety of records can help you learn more about the lives of your ancestors. These include birth, marriage, and death records; immigration and naturalization records; land records; census records; probate records and wills; church and cemetery records; newspapers; passenger lists; military records; and much more.

When you use information from any source — an original record, a printed book, or a website — always be careful to document it. If you use a book, you should cite the author or compiler, the full title, publication information and pages used. Also be sure to record the author's sources for the information. If the author's sources aren't provided, you will have to try to find the original source. Many genealogical works contain faulty information, and the Internet also contains many inaccuracies. In order for your work to be accepted — by lineage societies and other genealogists — it must be properly documented.

IMPORTANT GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES

New England Historic Genealogical Society

Founded in 1845, NEHGS is the country's oldest and largest genealogical society. The library contains over 200,000 books, plus significant manuscript and microfilm collections, and a circulating library by mail. NEHGS members receive two periodicals, the *Register* and *New England Ancestors*, and can access valuable genealogical data online.

NEHGS, 101 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02116;
888-296-3447; www.NewEnglandAncestors.org.

Plimoth Plantation: *Bringing Your History To Life*

As a non-profit, educational organization our mission is: to offer the public powerful experiences of history, built upon thorough research of the Wampanoag and Pilgrim communities. We offer multiple learning opportunities to provide a deeper understanding of the relationship of historical events to modern America. Members have access to our Research Library.

Plimoth Plantation, 137 Warren Avenue, Plymouth, MA 02632;
508-746-1622; www.plimoth.org

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

- www.PlymouthAncestors.org
- www.CyndisList.com
- www.FamilySearch.org
- www.USGenWeb.org



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GENEALOGICAL LIBRARIES IN PLYMOUTH

General Society of Mayflower Descendants Library

A collection focused principally on the genealogies of the descendants of the *Mayflower* passengers.

4 Winslow St., Plymouth; 508-746-3188; www.mayflower.org

Plymouth Collection, Plymouth Public Library

Over 1200 items relating to the descendants of the Pilgrims, as well as the many other immigrants who settled in the area.

132 South St., Plymouth; 508-830-4250;
www.plymouthpubliclibrary.org

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy by Christine Rose and Kay Germain Ingalls, Alpha Books, 1997.

Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research by Marcia Melnyk, NEHGS, 1999.

Shaking Your Family Tree: A Basic Guide to Tracing Your Family History by Ralph J. Crandall, NEHGS, 2001.

Unpuzzling Your Past by Emily Croom, Betterway Books, 2003.

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